EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EV 386479995 US

CUSTOMER NO: 24498

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Jill MacDonald Boyce; Jeffrey Allen Cooper;

Kumar Ramaswamy

Filed

Herewith

For

ROBUST MODE STAGGERCASTING WITHOUT

ARTIFACTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents MAIL STOP PCT P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In the US national phase application of PCT/US04/01528 filed herewith, please file the following amendments and enter remarks as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Listing and Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 14 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 15 of this paper.